



Performance Level Tables for the California Standards Tests and the California Alternate Performance Assessment

Performance Level Reporting

- The California Standards Tests (CSTs) and the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA) are criterion-referenced tests. Results are based on how well students achieve identified state-adopted content standards, not how student results compare with results of other students taking the same tests.
- The State Board of Education (SBE) approved five performance levels for reporting results of the CSTs and the CAPA. The performance levels designated are advanced, proficient, basic, below basic, and far below basic.
- Initial recommendations came from Performance Level Setting Panels for each content area. The SBE also scheduled regional hearings to receive public input before final performance levels were adopted.

Reporting CST and CAPA Results

- Individual student and group results for the CSTs and the CAPA are reported using the five performance levels adopted by the SBE.
- Performance levels establish the points at which students have demonstrated sufficient knowledge and skills to be regarded as performing at a particular achievement level.
- The scale score range for each performance level by grade and subject area does not change from year to year.
- The number or percent of questions that students must answer currently to score at each performance level may change slightly from year to year due to differences in the difficulty levels of the tests. Scaled scores are used to adjust for these changes and to equate the tests between years.
- The SBE set the minimum scaled score target of "350" as proficient for all California students for the CSTs.
- Scale scores of 35 or higher on the CAPA scale are at or above proficient.
- Scale score ranges for performance levels for the CSTs and the CAPA for all subject areas and grade levels tested follow.



Scale Score Ranges for CST Performance Levels (by subject area and grade)

English-Language Arts

Grade	Far Below Basic	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
2	150–261	262–299	300–349	350–401	402–600
3	150–258	259–299	300–349	350–401	402–600
4	150–268	269–299	300–349	350–392	393–600
5	150–270	271–299	300–349	350–394	395–600
6	150–267	268–299	300–349	350–393	394–600
7	150–262	263–299	300–349	350–400	401–600
8	150–265	266–299	300–349	350–394	395–600
9	150–264	265–299	300–349	350–396	397–600
10	150–262	263–299	300–349	350–391	392–600
11	150–258	259–299	300–349	350–395	396–600

**Mathematics**

Grade	Far Below Basic	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
2	150–235	236–299	300–349	350–413	414–600
3	150–235	236–299	300–349	350–413	414–600
4	150–244	245–299	300–349	350–400	401–600
5	150–247	248–299	300–349	350–429	430–600
6	150–252	253–299	300–349	350–414	415–600
7	150–256	257–299	300–349	350–413	414–600
General Mathematics*	150–256	257–299	300–349	350–413	414–600
Algebra I	150–252	253–299	300–349	350–427	428–600
Geometry	150–246	247–299	300–349	350–417	418–600
Algebra II	150–256	257–299	300–349	350–415	416–600
Summative High School Mathematics	150–234	235–299	300–349	350–419	420–600
Integrated Mathematics 1	150–248	249–299	300–349	350–424	425–600
Integrated Mathematics 2	150–257	258–299	300–349	350–417	418–600
Integrated Mathematics 3	150–251	252–299	300–349	350–427	428–600

* The General Mathematics CST assesses grade eight and nine students' knowledge of California's grade six and seven mathematics academic standards. Students who are not yet in Algebra I or who are taking the first year of a two-year Algebra I course take this test.

**History-Social Science**

Grade	Far Below Basic	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
8 Grade 6–8 Standards	150–270	271–299	300–349	350–395	396–600
10 World History	150–274	275–299	300–349	350–399	400–600
11 United States History	150–269	270–299	300–349	350–400	401–600

Science

Course	Far Below Basic	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
5 Grade 4–5 Standards	150–267	268–299	300–349	350–409	410–600
Earth Science	150–276	277–299	300–349	350–392	393–600
Biology	150–275	276–299	300–349	350–393	394–600
Chemistry	150–275	276–299	300–349	350–393	394–600
Physics	150–275	276–299	300–349	350–392	393–600
Integrated/ Coordinated Science 1	150–276	277–299	300–349	350–389	390–600
Integrated/ Coordinated Science 2	150–277	278–299	300–349	350–390	391–600
Integrated/ Coordinated Science 3	150–275	276–299	300–349	350–390	391–600
Integrated/ Coordinated Science 4	150–275	276–299	300–349	350–396	397–600



Scale Score Ranges for CAPA Performance Levels (by subject area and CAPA level)

English-Language Arts

CAPA Level	Performance Level				
	Far Below Basic	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
I	15-25	26-29	30-34	35-45	46-60
II	15-23	24-29	30-34	35-40	41-60
III	15-22	23-29	30-34	35-40	41-60
IV	15-24	25-29	30-34	35-40	41-60
V	15-24	25-29	30-34	35-41	42-60

Mathematics

CAPA Level	Performance Level				
	Far Below Basic	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
I	15-20	21-29	30-34	35-42	43-60
II	15-25	26-29	30-34	35-40	41-60
III	15-24	25-29	30-34	35-42	43-60
IV	15-25	26-29	30-34	35-40	41-60
V	15-26	27-29	30-34	35-40	41-60